



**Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Department
Office of Governor Deval L. Patrick
Press Release**

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**PATRICK ADMINISTRATION ANNOUNCES
THORNDIKE STREET CORRIDOR, LORD OVERPASS
RECONSTRUCTION TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO
ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES**

State investment will Rebuild Several Intersections and Three Bridges

BOSTON – Tuesday, October 14, 2014 – Governor Deval Patrick today joined with MassDOT Secretary Richard Davey and local officials to announce the reconstruction of the Thorndike Street corridor in Lowell, including the Lord Overpass. The Governor also announced that the project's design would be advanced through an expedited process that will result in breaking ground on construction in less than half the time required under the standard project development process.

"For eight years, we have invested in road and bridge improvements across the Commonwealth that enhance safe travel and improve our quality of life," said Governor Patrick. "The Lowell project adds to that legacy and does so in a way that accelerates the work through a smart partnership between the state and City."

The \$15 million project will be a design and build partnership between the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) and the City of Lowell, and will include improvements at several Thorndike Street intersections while reconstructing three bridges including the Lord Overpass carrying Route 3A/Middlesex Street over Thorndike Street, the Route 110/ Appleton Street Bridge over Thorndike Street; and the Thorndike Street Bridge over the Pawtucket Canal.

"I commend Governor Patrick for his continued focus and strong support of the revitalization of the Hamilton Canal District and applaud Senator Donoghue and the Lowell Delegation for helping to secure this critical funding which will help better link Lowell's downtown, Gallagher Terminal and the future home of the Lowell Judicial Center," said Congresswoman Niki Tsongas.

"This project takes a comprehensive approach to improving a busy corridor that will greatly improve traffic flow and ultimately support the ongoing economic growth in Lowell," said Secretary Davey.

Thorndike Street intersection improvements are proposed at Dutton Street, Fletcher Street, Gallagher Terminal, Highland Street, Hale Street, Middlesex Street and Appleton

Street. The project will also extend Jackson Street approximately 600 feet to Fletcher Street and build a retaining wall along the Hamilton Canal.

A design agreement issued by MassDOT will allow the City of Lowell to oversee design development on an expedited schedule and begin construction work on the corridor and three municipally-owned bridges within three years.

For more information about this project, visit MassDOT's website: www.mass.gov/massdot blog: <http://blog.mass.gov/transportation/>, or follow MassDOT on twitter at <https://twitter.com/MassDOT> and Facebook at www.facebook.com/massdotinfo.

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